

Hierarchical self-assembly of nucleotide-appended oligopyrenotides into defined supramolecular objects

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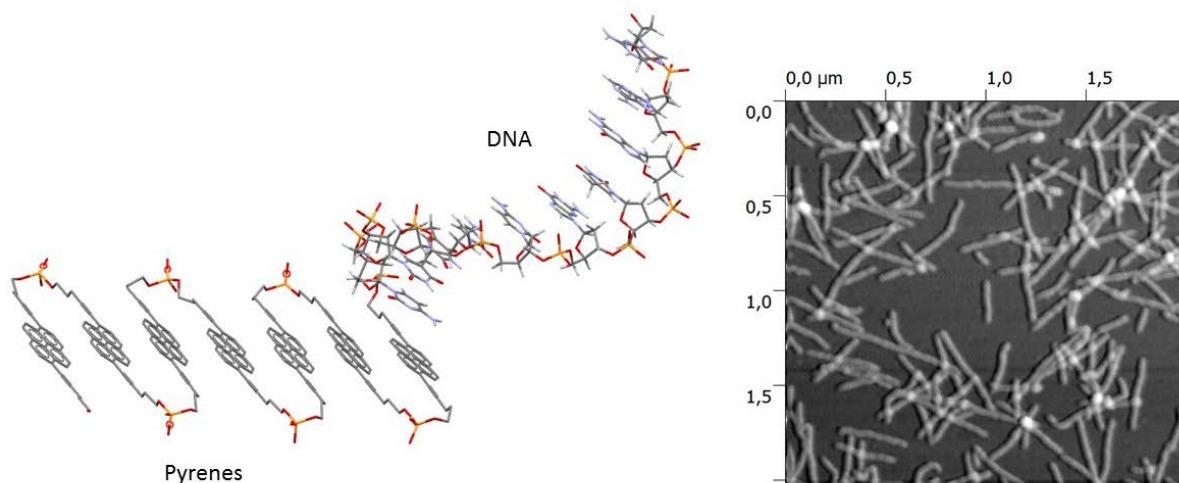
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Supramolecular DNA assembly blends DNA building blocks with synthetic organic and inorganic molecules giving structural and functional advantages both to the initial self-assembly process and to the final construct.¹

Synthetic molecules can bring a number of additional interactions into DNA nanotechnology. Incorporating extended aromatic molecules as connectors of DNA strands allows folding of these strands through π - π stacking (DNA “foldamers”).²

In previous work it was shown that short oligopyrenotides (phosphodiester-linked pyrene oligomers) behave as staircase-like foldamers, which cooperatively self-assemble into two-dimensional supramolecular polymers in aqueous medium.³

Herein, we demonstrate that a 10-mer DNA-sequence modified with 7 pyrene units (see illustration) forms dimensionally-defined supramolecular polymers under thermodynamic conditions in water. We present the self-assembly behavior, morphological studies, and the spectroscopic properties of the investigated DNA-sequences (illustrative AFM picture shown below).



¹F. A. Aldaye, A. L. Palmer, H. F. Sleiman, *Science* **2008**, 321, 1795–1799.

²W. Wang, L.-S. Li, G. Helms, H.-H. Zhou, A. D. Li, *J. Am.Chem.Soc.* **2003**, 125, 1120–1121.

³M. Vybornyi, A. V. Rudnev, S. M. Langenegger, T. Wandlowski, G. Calzaferri, R. Häner, *Angew.Chem.Int.Ed.* **2013**, 52, 11488–11493.